There are too many people filing petitions to try to make it hard to get a ham radio license. Why is it that we should increase the written portion of the test if the CW test is eliminated? If you don't learn CW are you some how not able to communicate in other modes without additional testing that ins't required now? Somehow learning CW now, makes up for what you might have to learn on paper with an increased number of test questions? Everyone whines "we need more hams" then they leap to arms to do what they can to stop people from joining our ranks. We can easily improve US ham radio, get more operators, catch up with the rest of the world, and make ham radio more appealing to youngsters by simply dropping the code. Period. Nothing else is necessary.